

**REMARKS**

Favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested. Applicant has rewritten claim 7, and canceled claims 15-16. Applicant gratefully appreciates the examiner's indication that claims 17-22 were allowable, and claim 16 contained allowable subject matter if put into independent claim form. Favorable reconsideration of this application is, consequently, earnestly solicited in view of the following remarks.

Claim 7 was amended to include the novel subject matter of former dependent claims 15-16.

Claims 12-13 were rejected under sec. 102a as being anticipated by Kobayashi '969 or under sec. 103 as being obvious over Kobayashi '969 in view of Wickramasinghe '235. This rejection is now moot since these claims have been canceled. Applicant also notes that method versions having novel claimed features of the subject claims were allowed in the parent application 10/084,688 filed 2/27/2002, now issued as U.S. Patent 6,905,736 on June 14, 2005, where the examiner in the parent application allowed the claims over the same Kobayashi '969 reference. Thus, removal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 7-11 were rejected under sec. 102e over Suzuki or claims 7-11 and 15 were rejected as obvious over Suzuki in view of Wickramasinghe '235 and Kobayashi '969. This rejection is moot since these claim 7 has been amended to include the novel subject matter of former dependent claims 15-16.

Applicant contends the references cannot be modified to incorporate the features of subject claims 7-11 and 17-22 without utilizing Applicant's disclosure. The courts

have consistently held that obviousness cannot be established by combining the teachings of the prior art to Applicant to produce the claimed invention, absent some teaching, suggestion, incentive or motivation supporting the combination.

In view of the foregoing considerations, it is respectfully urged that claims 7-11 and 17-22 be allowed. Such action is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that an interview would be helpful, the Examiner is requested to contact the attorney at the below listed number.

Respectfully Submitted;

  
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